Introduction to
Video Editing
with Apple's iMovie

LSA/ISS Media Center *Sound & Motion*
INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES
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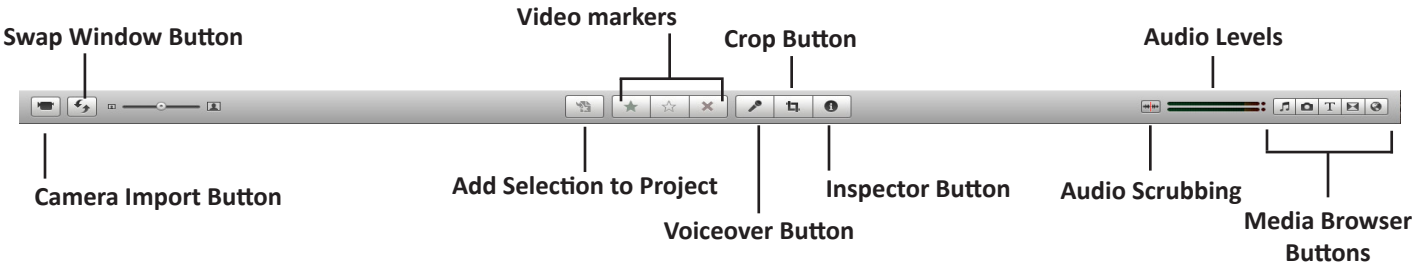
iMovie Work Space

Main Window:

Tool Bar:



IMPORTANT Information Before Opening iMovie:

Setting-up and Saving iMovie Files
When you first set up your video project, by default iMovie will save it to the computer's Movie folder (Hard Drive>User>Movie). This is fine if you are using your personal computer, but if you are using one of the University's computers it could lead to you loosing all of your files when you log-out. To successfully edit any video on a university maintained computer, you need either an external hard drive or a fast USB thumb-drive (the latter must have a minimum of 8GB free space.).

Saving Your iMovie Project to an External Hard Drive
Editing video on a university computer and not transferring it to an external drive will result in your project being erased when you log-out. The safest best way to edit video is to have your own external hard drive. When saving your iMovie project to an external hard drive, you must save the iMovie Projects and Events folders to the top, root directory of the drive. You cannot save your iMovie project within a folder on your drive. You can move these folders elsewhere after saving the project and closing out of iMovie, but they must always be replaced in the top, root directory when editing.

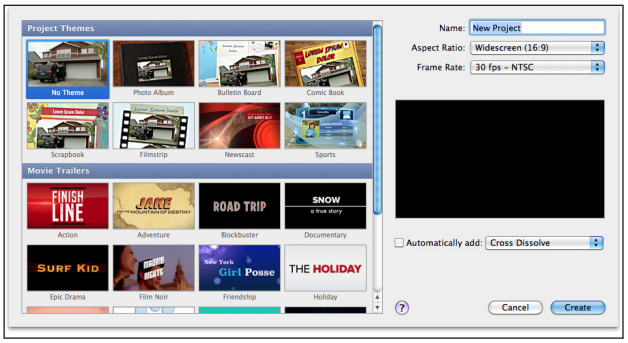
Editing on a University Computer with a USB Thumb-drive
Unless you have a very fast and very large USB thumb-drive, 8GB or more, initially you will need to save your iMove project to the computers Movie folder (Hard Drive>User>Unique Name>Movie). After closing iMovie you must transfer your Project and Event folders to your USB thumb-drive. Failure to do so will result in your work being erased when you log-out of the computer.
To continue editing your iMovie project, you will need to copy Project and Event folders back to the computer's Movie folder (Hard Drive>User>Unique Name>Movie). Remember to transfer them back to your thumb-drive when you are finished.
If you are planning to do more video editing, we strongly suggest that you get your own Mac formatted external hard drive. Contact the LSA-ISS Media Center for information about hard drives that are best for editing video – lsa-iss-media@umich.edu .

NOTE: Once you create your Project and Event folders, see below, iMovie will automatically save your work these folders and location.

Before Creating a New Project

1. In the Menu bar go to iMovie > Preferences
2. In the General tab, check the box Show Advanced Tools

I. Creating a New iMovie Project



1. To open iMovie, click the iMovie icon in the computers Dock (you can also open iMovie in the computer's Application folder).
2. Once iMovie is open, select the Project Library tab on top left of Project window.
3. With the Project open, select the hard drive where you want your iMovie project to be saved. Remember that by default, iMovie saves your video to the computer's Movie folder (Please see above, Before You Open iMovie).
4. To create a new project, in the Menu select File>New project (keyboard shortcut is command + n).
5. In the dialog box, name your project.
6. Next choose the Aspect Ratio. If your camera recorded Standard Definition (SD) video, choose Standard (4.3). If your camera recorded HDV, HD or widescreen SD video, choose Widescreen (16:9). Next choose the Theme you would like to use. For the purpose of this tutorial, choose None.
7. Make sure that the Automatically Add button is not checked. Any transition you want to add should be done manually (Please see section Adding Transitions Between Clips for more information about transitions).
8. When you are finished, click on the Create button. The iMovie Project Window will now have your project name above it.

II. Importing Video from a Tape-based DV Camera or DV Deck

1. With iMovie open, connect your camera to the computer with either a FireWire or USB-2 cable. If using one of the Media Center's editing rooms, simply turn on the DV deck and load your tape (for information on how to connect the Kodak Zi8 camera that does not record to tape, please see Appendix 1: Using Kodak Zi8 Video Cameras with iMovie)
2. Click on the Open Camera Import Window button or use the keyboard shortcut, command + i. The Import window will open.
3. With the Import window open, select either Automatic or Manual on the switch to the left side of the window.
   - Automatic: This setting will import all of your video, creating new clips every time iMovie detects that started and stopped your recording.
   - Manual: You select the footage you want to import or not import, using the Import window's Capture button.
4. For this tutorial, choose Manual.
5. Select your device in the "Camera" pull down menu
6. Using the fast forward and rewind controls, choose the point where you want to start importing your video and click "Capture"
7. A dialog box will open, asking you to create either a new Event folder or select an existing one. In the Save To pull-down, select same location/hard drive where you previously saved your Project file. Next you want to choose Create New Event and give it a name.

NOTE: iMovie uses the Event file to hold all of the video and audio media you will use in your project. Both the Project and Event files for your video must be saved in the same location. See *Before You Open iMovie* at the beginning of this manual for more information)

8. Click OK and iMovie will begin to import your footage. To stop importing video, click Stop. Continue in this manner until you have imported all of the video you need.
9. All of your imported video will be saved to your Event folder and appear in the Event Library, ready for editing.

III. Importing from a Memory or Memory Card Based DV Camera

> **NOTE**: Not all cameras using internal memory or a memory card will be recognized by iMovie - the Media Center's Kodak Zi8 Pocket HD Camera for example. See *Appendix 1: Using Kodak Zi8 Video Cameras with iMovie* for more information.

1. With iMovie open, connect your camera to the computer with either a FireWire or USB-2 cable.
2. Click on the Open Camera Import Window button or use the keyboard shortcut, *command + i.* The Import window will open.
3. With the Import window open, select either Automatic or Manual on the switch to the left side of the window.
   - Automatic: This setting will import all of your video, creating new clips every time iMovie detects that started and stopped your recording.
   - Manual: You select the footage you want to import or not import, by checking and unchecking clips within the Import window.
4. Select your device in the "Camera" pull down menu
5. When you are ready to import, just select *Import Checked*
6. A dialog box will open, asking you to create either a new Event folder or select an existing one. In the Save To pull-down, select same location/hard drive where you previously saved your Project file. Next you want to choose Create New Event and give it a name.
7. Check the Optimize video checkbox and set it to Large 960x540*. You may choose to not optimize video if you shot in a larger HD resolution that you wish to preserve.*
8. Select Copy Files
9. Click Import

> **NOTE**: iMovie uses the Event file to hold all of the video and audio media you will use in your project. Both the Project and Event files for your video must be saved in the same location. See *Before You Open iMovie* at the beginning of this manual for more information)

10. iMovie will begin to import your footage. All of your imported video will be saved to your Event folder and appear in the Event Library, ready for editing.

IV. Importing QuickTime Files into iMovie

> **NOTE**: This is also how you import video from the Kodak Zi8 pocket video camera. See Appendix 1: Using Kodak Zi8 Video Cameras with iMovie for more details.

1. From the iMovie Menu, select File > Import > Movies…
2. In the dialog box locate and select the files you want to import.
3. Locate and choose your existing Event folder or create a new one in the Create New Event box
4. Check the Optimize video checkbox and set it to Large 960x540*. You may choose to not optimize video if you shot in a larger HD resolution that you wish to preserve.*
5. Select Copy Files
6. Click Import.

V. Editing Your Video in iMovie

NOTE: Whenever you move your mouse over a video clip, sound clip or transition in your project, a small, white menu tab will appear. Clicking on this tab will reveal a menu that will give you various options to adjust your clip.

1. In the Event Browser, select a clip to reveal a yellow edit box.
2. Drag the yellow border to choose the start (in) and end points (out) for clip. Here you are editing the clip to select just the section of it you want to use in your final video.
3. Placing you mouse within the yellow box, drag the edited clip into the Project Window.
4. Continue in this manner, placing clips in a sequence. Once you have several edited clips in your Project Window, you can rearrange the clips by clicking and moving them to where you want them to appear in your final video.

VI. Adding Titles, Credits and Text to Your Movie

1. Click the "T" button in the Media Browser to open up the Titles Menu.

NOTE: iMovie's Media Browser gives you the option of adding sound, photographs, text, transitions and animations to your video.

2. Click on and drag the desired style to where you want you your text to appear:
   - To have text appear over a clip, drag and place it on top of the clip.
   - To have the text stand alone on a black background, drag and place it in between clips
3. To add or change the text, click on it in the viewer
4. Clicking the "Show Fonts" button in the top right of the viewer brings up a menu that allows you to change fonts, color, style and alignment

VII. Adding Transitions Between Clips

1. In the Edit Browser, click the transitions button to bring up the Transitions Menu.
2. Click and drag the desired transition to the Project Browser, placing it between clips where you want a transition.
3. To adjust the transition's duration, move your mouse over it and to reveal the Precision Editor. Click on the Precision Editor tab.
4. Click and drag the ends of your transition, represented by the blue bar, to desired duration.

VIII. Adding Sound Effects and Music

1. Click on the music button in the Media Browser to bring up the music and sound effects menu.
2. Click on the iMovie Sound Effects or iLife Sound Effects folder to find a list of available sound effects. Double click on a sound effect to listen to it.
3. Drag sound effect to desired location in the Project Window. To adjust volume and other properties of audio, click the white tab on audio track to reveal the Audio Adjustments window.
4. To add music open iTunes and click and drag song to desired location in project.

NOTE: If you are adding music from outside of iMovie, from a CD or a stand-alone file for example, you must copy the file to your Event Folder **FIRST** and then drag it into iMovie.

IX. Adding Effects to Clips

1. In the Project Window, select the clip you want to which you want to add an effect.
2. Click on the Inspector button located in the middle of the screen
3. In the Inspector menu, click the button next to Video Effect labeled None.
4. Moving your cursor over an effect will show you the effect on your clip.
5. Click on desired effect and then click Done. The effect will be render to your clip (choose *command + z* to undo the effect)

X. Exporting your Finished Video to Video Sharing Sites

1. From the Menu click Share > Youtube, Vimeo, Facebook, etc.
2. Enter your account information for the service
3. Select Large for size.

XI. Exporting your Finished Video using Export Movie (.m4v)

1. Select the size based on the Apple Device you are outputting for. We recommend Large or higher if you plan to upload the file to the web at a later date or for screening purposes.

XII. Exporting your Finished Video as a QuickTime Movie (.mov)

1. For advanced settings and recommended settings for best quality see the iMovie to Web handout.
2. From the Menu click Share > Export Using Quicktime…

XIII. Exporting directly to iDVD

1. From the Menu select Share > iDVD

Appendix 1
Using Kodak Zi8 Video Cameras with iMovie

Currently the Kodak Zi8 pocket video camera is not automatically recognized by iMovie. To import your Zi8 video files into iMovie, you need to treat them as standalone QuickTime files (see section IV: Importing QuickTime Files into iMovie). The following instructions detail how to import Zi8 files into iMovie.

1. With the Zi8 turned off, attach the USB extension cable to the camera and then to the computer. The Zi8 will start automatically and show up on the computer's Desktop as an external hard drive.
2. In the iMovie Menu, select File> Import> Movies…
3. To select your files from the Zi8, first locate the drive from the left column and then locate the QuickTime files inside the DCIM folder/directory. Select only the QuickTime files you want to import.
4. In the Save To field, select the hard drive where your iMovie Project folder is saved.
5. Choose to either add footage to an existing Event folder, or create a new one and name it.
6. In the Optimize Video box choose Large.
7. Select Copy Files
8. Click Import
9. **Important:** Once you are finished importing your video, it is very important that you correctly remove the Zi8 from the computer. Otherwise the camera may get damaged. To remove the camera, first eject the Zi8 from your desktop by dragging its icon into the trash (the trash can will briefly turn into an eject symbol). Once the camera is no longer on the desktop, remove the cables from the camera and computer. Turn off the camera if needed.

NOTE: The QuickTime files are now located in your iMovie Events folder if you have any need use or view them outside of iMovie.